

IN THE CLAIMS

Page 12, line 1, change "Patent Claims" to --What is claimed is:--.

Claims 1-22 (cancelled).

23. (New) A regulating vacuum valve comprising:

a valve body with a through-channel;

a closure member which is adjustable over a control path between a closed position of the regulating vacuum valve in which it contacts a valve seat and closes the through-channel and an open position of the regulating vacuum valve in which it is raised from the valve seat;

an adjusting device which has a drive unit for adjusting the closure member over the control path;

a carrying unit which carries the closure member, the closure member being displaceable relative to the carrying unit;

wherein the carrying unit is arranged in the through-channel and is secured to the valve body; and

wherein the carrying unit has a chamber which is sealed relative to the through-channel and in which the adjusting device or at least a portion thereof is arranged.

24. (New) The regulating vacuum valve according to claim 23, wherein the chamber of the carrying unit communicates with the atmosphere and is at atmospheric pressure.

25. (New) The regulating vacuum valve according to claim 24, wherein the carrying unit comprises a carrier body and at least one fastening web for fastening the carrier body to the valve body, and a through-hole is arranged in at least one fastening web and communicates with the atmosphere and is at atmospheric pressure on one side and is connected to the chamber of the carrying unit on the other side.

26. (New) The regulating vacuum valve according to claim 25, wherein there are at least two fastening webs which engage at different sides of the carrier body and extend in each instance between the carrier body and the valve body.

27. (New) The regulating vacuum valve according to claim 25, wherein the

carrier body is arranged centrally in the through-channel.

28. (New) The regulating vacuum valve according to claim 23, wherein there is arranged at the closure member at least one valve rod with which an actuating part of the adjusting device cooperates.

29. (New) The regulating vacuum valve according to claim 28, wherein the valve rod extends in axial direction of the through-channel.

30. (New) The regulating vacuum valve according to claim 28, wherein the valve rod is supported in or at the carrying unit so as to be displaceable.

31. (New). The regulating vacuum valve according to claim 30, wherein the closure member is fixed with respect to rotation around the axis of the valve rod relative to the carrying unit.

32. (New) The regulating vacuum valve according to claim 30, wherein the carrying unit has a guide connection piece extending in direction of the closure member, the valve rod being supported in or at the guide connection piece so as to be displaceable.

33. (New) The regulating vacuum valve according to claim 32, wherein a sealing ring is provided for sealing the chamber in the carrying unit relative to the through-channel and seals the valve rod relative to the guide connection piece.

34. (New) The regulating vacuum valve according to claim 32, wherein bellows are provided for sealing the chamber in the carrying unit relative to the through-channel of the valve body and are arranged at the carrying unit on one side and at the closure member or at the valve rod on the other side.

35. (New) The regulating vacuum valve according to claim 28, wherein the valve rod has a bore hole which proceeds from its free end and extends in axial direction, which bore hole is a pocket hole and is provided with a female thread with which a male thread of the actuating part which can be set in rotation by the drive unit engages.

36. (New) The regulating vacuum valve according to claim 35, wherein the actuating part is a spindle which is arranged in the chamber of the carrying unit and is supported at the carrying unit so as to be rotatable and can be driven via a transmission part by the drive unit arranged outside the valve body.

37. (New) The regulating vacuum valve according to claim 35, wherein the actuating part is an output shaft of the drive unit arranged inside the chamber of the carrying unit.

38. (New) The regulating vacuum valve according to claim 23, wherein the valve seat is arranged at the valve body.

39. (New) The regulating vacuum valve according to claim 23, wherein the valve seat is flanged to the wall of a vacuum chamber to which the valve body is flanged.

40. (New) The regulating vacuum valve according to claim 23, wherein the closure member has an elastic sealing ring which contacts a sealing surface of the valve seat in the closed position of the vacuum regulating valve.

41. (New) The regulating vacuum valve according to claim 23, wherein the closure member is arranged inside an enlarged portion of the through-channel.

42. (New) The regulating vacuum valve according to claim 23, wherein the closure member is arranged outside the through-channel of the valve body.

43. (New) The regulating vacuum valve according to claim 23, wherein the closure member is plate-shaped and is displaceable vertical to its plane.

44. (New) The regulating vacuum valve according to claim 23, wherein the through-channel penetrates the valve body in a straight line.